

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 01089 090334Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 /067 W  
-----025935 092003Z /43

R 081145Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9734  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 1089

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PEBR, VN, CE

SUBJ: VISIT OF VIETNAMESE PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG

1. MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) OFFICIALS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR PHAM VAN DONG'S VISIT ARE CHARACTERIZING IT AS A GOODWILL VISIT. THEY SPECULATE THAT PHAM CAME HERE AS AN OFF-SHOOT OF HIS VISIT TO INDI, WHICH THEY JUDGE AS HAVING BEEN SUBSTANTIVE AND MATERIALLY BENEFICIAL TO VIETNAM. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT DISCUSSIONS IN SRI LANKA, BUT VISIT PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY FOR PHAM TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH NEW GOVERNMENT THAT HAS COME TO POWER SINCE HE WAS LAST HERE FOR THE 1976 NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE.

2. MFA OFFICIALS ALSO SEE VIETNAM AS SEEKING TO SOLIDIFY ITS RELATIONS WITH SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES, WITH WHICH IT HAS NO PROBLEMS, CONCURRENTLY WITH ITS EFFORTS TO EXTEND RELATIONS  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COLOMB 01089 090334Z

WITH SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES. THEY NOTED THAT VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTER HAS VISITED SOME ASEAN COUNTRIES AND THAT PHAM IN REFERRING TO ASEAN DID NOT CONDEMN IT AS A "TOOL OF THE AMERICANS," STRESSING INSTEAD THAT VIETNAM WANTS BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ASEAN COUNTRIES.

3. PHAM MET WITH PRESIDENT JAYEWARDENE FOR ABOUT AN HOUR,

MOST OF WHICH WAS TAKEN UP WITH AN EXCHANGE OF PLESANTRIES.  
PHAM DID CLARIFY THE VIETNAM-KAMPUCHEA SITUATION FOR THE  
PRESIDENT, BUT DID NOT ASK FOR ANY ASSISTANCE. MFA OFFICIALS  
DISMISS POSSIBILITY THAT PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO SEEK SUPPORT  
FOR VIETNAM'S SIDE OF THE DISPUTE.

4. MFA APPEARS RELIEVED THAT VISIT CAME OFF AS SMOOTHLY AS  
IT DID. THE INNOCUOUS CULTURAL AND TRADE AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN  
AGREED TO BEFOREHAND. THE ONLY WORK WAS ON THE JOINT COMMUNI-  
QUE AND INVOLVED SETTling SUCH NICETIES AS WHETHER TO USE SRI  
LANKAN FORMULATION OF "ALL FORMS OF IMPERIALISM" OR VIETNAM'S  
"ALL IMPERIALISM." THE VIETNAMESE WON.

5. PHAM'S SCHEDULE WAS EXTREMELY LIGHT AND MOSTLY CEREMONIAL.  
THERE WERE NO EVENING EVENTS OR DINNERS. MFA OFFICIALS SAID  
THAT THE 72 YEAR OLD PHAM HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY HIS DOCTORS  
NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY ACTIVITIES AFTER SEVEN P.M.  
WRIGGINS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978COLOMB01089  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780106-0858  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780394/aaaadbql.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f5d097cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3408470  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VISIT OF VIETNAMESE PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG  
**TAGS:** PEPR, OVIP, VN, CE, (PHAM VAN DONG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f5d097cb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014